

The Fisherman

The Newsletter of the Reformed Dutch Church Of Claverack

A Reformed Church in America Congregation

September 2020

2020 Consistory

Elders

Bill Better
Donna Lynk Campion
Cheryl Halleran
Andrea Mastrianni
Nate Winch

Deacons

John Dunham
Kim Plass
Amy Race
Melissa Skoda
Olivia VanAlphen
Bob Weinman

Missionaries

Rev. and Mrs. Brad Kautz,
Jicarilla Apache Nation
RCA—Partner in Mission (PIM)

Staff

Rev. Linda Miles
Pastor

Andrea Mastrianni
Director of Music

Lloyd Lawrence
Director of Bell Choir

Helen Hamel
Office Manager

Alyssa Ellithorpe
Custodian

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Pastor's Corner

My grandmother, Lenna Belle, whom I was named after, was a worrier. She had a rough life, married to a coal miner who was killed in a mine collapse leaving her with three kids under six years old. She went back to school and became a schoolteacher. She lived through the flu pandemic and the Depression. She dealt with my dad who served in WWII, and she finally died of a stroke in her 70's.

Sadly, she worried about everything, likely because of her life experience which didn't include church. But she did instill a great work ethic and close family ties. So, whenever I talk to a worrier or when I am worried, I think of Gramma and how much of life and joy she missed by worrying instead of praying, by worrying instead of being grateful.

I think Jesus was trying to teach his disciples how to deal with anxiety and worry. Look at Matthew 6:34 and Philippians 4:6-7.

No matter how many days God gives us, we are only given one day at a time. So, when you think about it, today is all we have. It's one of the facts of life. Yesterday is gone. Today is the only day you are sure of. No matter how many days God gives us, we receive them one at a time.

It reminds me of an old song, "One Day at a Time" (sung by Merle Haggard) . . .

Do you remember, when you walked among men?

Well Jesus, you know, if you're looking below, it's worse now than then.

One day at a time, sweet Jesus, that's all I'm asking of you.

Just give me the strength to do everything that I've got to do.

Yesterday's gone, sweet Jesus, and tomorrow may never be mine.

Lord help me today, show me the way, one day at a time.

(lyrics by Damon Albarn and Robert Delnaja)

Please pray this prayer with me:

Lord, help me to live one day at a time. Release me from fear and worry. Help me to rest in the presence of your love and provision for me. Thank you for caring about the details of my life, big and small. Help me to seek you first at all times. I pray in the name of Christ, AMEN.

Pastor Linda

Start
each day
with a
grateful
heart.



-Psalm 107:1

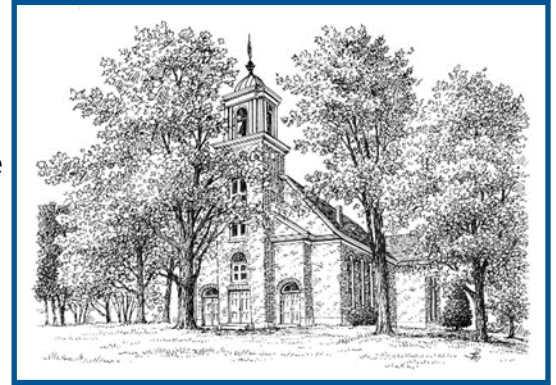
Spiritual Life of Our Congregation



Worship Schedule



Our **worship services** are **9:30 a.m.** Sundays, and we continue to follow the guidelines that have been enacted to curb the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. This will continue for the foreseeable future until we receive further guidance. The worship service is streamed live on the church's Facebook page. As this is a public page, you do not need a Facebook account. Go to: The-Reformed-Dutch-Church-of-Claverack. While this service is live, it remains a saved file so you can watch the service as your schedule allows.



Bulletins are sent electronically via email (a few are printed and mailed). This will continue indefinitely. We encourage in-person worshippers to print their own bulletins, for safety reasons. However, there are a few printed copies available. If you are not receiving an emailed bulletin please contact the church office at office@claverackreformedchurch.org, or call us at 518-851-3811.



Virtual **Coffee Hour** will continue via Zoom for the next several weeks (from your home). We continue to look at the possibility of resuming coffee hour at church, hoping that social-distancing requirements could become less stringent. (An email with Zoom directions is sent via email each week.)



The **Christian Education Building** will be open for restroom use **only** during our worship services. The remaining building remains closed until further notice due to sanitation cleaning requirements.

Worship Opportunity:

The **Reformed Church in America** is inviting you to a denomination-wide worship service on Sunday, September 6. It is a rich experience to worship with others from across the RCA and you are invited to join in this prerecorded service on YouTube. You can view this service any time from September 6 onward. Here's the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YITqpYDj7_8&feature=youtu.be.



Eddy Aleman, General Secretary, Reformed Church in America, will preach a sermon based on Psalm 46. This is a relevant passage for the reality we are living in the world today. The title for this sermon is "Rest in the Lord". He shares a story of a young single mom from Mexico and her personal journey during difficult times.

September Lectionary Readings

The Lectionary is a list of scripture readings that are traditionally used for each Sunday of the church year. Many preachers choose from these readings for their sermon texts. They are created in a three-year cycle to cover many important Bible passages.

September 6 (Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost):

Exodus 12:1-14; Psalm 149; Ezekiel 33:7-11; Psalm 119:33-40; Romans 13:8-14;
Matthew 18:15-20

September 13 (Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost):

Exodus 14:19-31; Psalm 114 or Exodus 15:1b-11; 20-21; Genesis 50:15-21;
Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

September 20 (Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost):

Exodus 16:2-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45; Jonah 3:10-4:11; Psalm 145:1-8;
Philippians 1:21-30; Matthew 20:1-16

September 27 (Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost):

Exodus 17:1-7; Psalm 78:104, 12-16; Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32; Psalm 25:1-9;
Philippians 2:1-13; Matthew 21:23-32

Communion Service

Sunday, September 6th

On **September 6th** we will celebrate **Holy Communion**.

* If you are worshipping with us in person, please bring your own bread and juice;

* If you are worshipping with us with Facebook live stream, please prepare your own bread and juice.



Church Family Missions



Operation Christmas Child will continue this year, 2020, and is organized by Lloyd Lawrence and Jan Durham of our Missions Committee. This is a good time to begin picking up typical school supplies which will be added to shoe boxes later this fall. More information will be in the bulletins and October newsletter.

RCA Global Mission

The RCA Global Mission has published their RCA Today bulletin, and copies can be found in the sanctuary as well as CEB. (The bulletin was published in April but not sent by RCA until churches began to re-open.) Going forward any updates can be viewed on line at www.rca.org/subscribe.



Food Pantry donations continue . . . Money donations (checks or cash) are very welcome. Food items can be placed in the back of the sanctuary. . Non-perishable items only, please!

An update from our mission at the Jicarilla Apache Reformed Church in New Mexico . . .

June 24, 2020

Dear Reformed Dutch Church,

Greetings from New Mexico! Our family remains under curfew and stay-at-home orders from the tribal nation. We are able to get outside a bit more lately, though, as the state parks have opened for day use. We've been kayaking and hiking, and we plan to continue to make use of the relatively nearby state parks. We are glad to have this opportunity!



The number of COVID-19 cases in Dulce continues to rise. All of our family have had a negative test in the past couple of weeks. Please continue to pray that this disease doesn't overtake the local population here! Only one Jicarilla Apache citizen has died so far, and that person didn't live on the reservation.

Pastor Brad continues to do some (physically distant) counseling, and he preaches via YouTube, as the tribe limits gatherings to five people. He has done four burial services since our quarantine started, none for COVID victims. We are also providing food for several local people who stop by. Many times, the act of feeding someone is accompanied by praying with that person, which we treasure. In addition, we have had some donations of cloth face coverings that we give away regularly. (If you are interested in sending some face masks our way, we would happily accept more!)

The ministers on the reservation and the tribal leadership have met to discuss reopening our churches, but with the infections in town still going up we anticipate virtual worship for at least several more weeks. We are all missing in-person worship, but we must keep people healthy.

We pray that you are well and managing the pandemic without difficulty. Having no mission groups this summer has been very odd for us. We miss you all!

God Bless,

Pastor Brad & Robin



Kat



Kahner



Olivia

Church Family Giving

Dear Church Members and Friends of the Reformed Dutch Church of Claverack,

Thank you for continuing your commitment to the Church...

Many thanks to all who have continued to assist the church financially during these days of financial uncertainty. The church continues to need funds to pay our employees, support our denomination, and maintain the property. We also want to continue to support our pledge to local and global missions. (They need us more than ever during this challenging time.)



If you or someone you know is in great need, please contact me, Lloyd Lawrence, or the women's group, to see if there is a way we can be of help.

Thanks much!
Pastor Linda Miles
845-430-3348

Church Family

Save the date . . . OCTOBER 4TH . . . FLU SHOT CLINIC . . .

(immediately following the Communion service . . .)

Please note:

- Wear short sleeves if possible.
- If you have new insurance from this year, please bring your insurance card.
- Social distancing/wearing of mask guidelines will be in place.
- Children 5 and over can also receive a shot.
- Sign up sheet will be located in the sanctuary. You will need to state your age (under / over 65, or child over 5) so enough vaccine is brought to the clinic.
- Any other information will be published in the bulletin.



PLEASE
NOTE...

Church Consistory / Elders will meet on September 20, immediately following the worship service.

FYI: ... The Consistory continues their work ... Including the maintaining of the sanctuary, CEB, parsonage and grounds ... Fire prevention equipment has been updated ... The parsonage and garage roofs have been replaced, downed trees have been removed ... Thank you to all who help organize getting these things done!

Our Church Bazaar . . . There is no doubt the upheaval COVID-19 has had on our lives ... And our annual church bazaar is impacted greatly as well ...

Should the bazaar be held ... Should it be cancelled entirely, or postponed ... should portions of it be held. So many questions, and we need to hear from all women of the church!

There is a survey form which has been put together for feedback on how our bazaar will go forward this year. A copy is at the back of this newsletter. Survey copies were sent electronically last week. There are copies in the sanctuary and CEB

for you to fill out. You can also email the church office with your thoughts and we will include them in our decision making. We ask, please, that all responses be received by Donna Campion or the church office **NO** later than **FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 4TH**. Thank you ...

Bazaar

September 7
Labor Day



August Birthdays/Anniversaries

Belated August Birthdays

Michelle Keeler	8/1	Meredith Weinman	8/18
Irene Kitchie	8/1	Mary Ann Gregory	8/21
Scott Holzhauer	8/7	Signe Brousseau	8/22
Jane Case	8/11	Alison Schroepfel	8/22
Carl Van Schaik	8/11	Cheryl Halleran	8/25
Pauline Gowen	8/12	Gig Barton	8/27
Glenn Holzhauer	8/14	Jim Schoep	8/27
Teresa Krein	8/15	Cameron Holzhauer	8/29
John Dunham	8/18	Jay Mackerer	8/30

August Anniversaries

Jean and Frank Starkes	8/2
Nancy and William Rasweiler	8/6
Michelle and Jeffrey Keeler	8/7
Thea and Jim Schoep	8/15
Irene and Glenn Holzhauer	8/19
Teresa and William Krein	8/22
Donna and Jim Campion	8/23
Kim and Jeff Plass	8/24
Tanya and Thomas Hotalen	8/24
Virginia and Peter Ambrose	8/28
Sheila and Mark Krizar	8/29



September Birthdays/Anniversaries

September Birthdays

Jean Starkes	9/3	Shannon Schroepfel	9/20
Barbara Robinson	9/3	Linda Mackerer	9/20
Thea Schoep	9/5	Melissa Skoda	9/21
Trisha Post	9/6	Snookie Patterson	9/22
Renee Stone	9/10	Jennifer Post	9/24
Frank Starkes	9/13	Jayden Denny	9/27
Tiffani Krein	9/14	Phyllis Mayo	9/28
Ryan Skoda	9/16	Ryan Nielsen	9/29
Rachel Nielsen	9/16		
Bruce Kline, Jr.	9/19		

September Anniversaries

P-L and Rick Schroepfel	9/3
Shirley and Mike Sullivan	9/7
Tricia and Patrick Mayo	9/10
Crystil-Lee and Ryan Skoda	9/22
Carol and Jim O'Neill	9/26



Church Office Hub

Pastor Linda Miles: 845-430-3348

Office Hours: 9:00—1:00 p.m., Tuesday-Friday

Email: office@claverackreformedchurch.org

Website: www.claverackreformedchurch.org

Facebook: The-Reformed-Dutch-Church-of-Claverack

FYI: Columbia County Community (NY Alert) Update:

Churches have been asked to notify their parishioners of an upcoming change to the emergency alert system known as NY Alert.

Recently, many of you have received a robocall from the Columbia County Code Red Emergency Alert System reminding you about the new NY ALERT system and the fact that Code Red will be discontinued.

If you have a landline, your phone number will be automatically transferred to the new system. If you use a cell phone, you will need to register your phone number.

County residents are advised to visit www.alert.ny.gov/enroll to register for NY ALERT cell phone and email alerts! Registration is now available to be prepared for the August 29 change. We're told it'll take you about 10 minutes to register your information.

A note from a member of the congregation . . .

**It is with deepest gratitude to all those
who have worked so hard and lovingly
to bring the church family back to the sanctuary safely
for Sunday Morning Worship services**

That heartfelt thanks and sincere appreciation is extended to each one of you:

**The Consistory, under Donna Champion's ongoing faithful and vital leadership
Pastor Linda and the Church Staff
Church Family Volunteers**

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!